

Peck Comment and WDFW Response on Welts Property Restoration

Mr. Peck,

Thank you for your support for the project. Please contact me with any additional questions.

Loren

Loren Brokaw

Restoration Projects Coordinator

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

16018 Mill Creek Blvd

Mill Creek, WA 98012

Office: (425) 775 – 1311 ext. 105

Cell: (425) 697 – 0687

From: Dan Peck [<mailto:dan.peck@wavecable.com>]

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To: SEPADesk2 (DFW)

Subject: Comment on SEPA No. 13073

I feel the determination of nonsignificance is correct. The Welts property/Samish River Unit has been diked off from the Samish river and estuary for a long time. I can remeber when the property was crop farmed. The proposed project will have no adverse affects on the environment or wildlife and will be a positive for both.

As for the neighbors complaints about the impacts of the public having access to the Samish River unit, I feel they're making a mountain out of a molehill. The use of the property will be the same as they use

their own, except they won't be able to charge the public to use it. It has been used for duck hunting for as long as I know, and don't know of anyone getting shot because of it. The opposite side of the river is a private hunting club, so hunting on the Samish River Unit won't be disturbing the peace any more than the surrounding area. All the surrounding areas of the river are used for salmon fishing, only the public is either not allowed to use it or they are charged by the land owners to use it. If it isn't kept public, it'll probably turn into another place that the public isn't allowed or they'll have to pay to have access to hunting and fishing opportunities. It is also a great place to get outside to go for a walk and observe the birds and other wildlife.

It wasn't that long ago that all the dikes between the Bayview-Edison bridge and the Farm to Market Bridge were open to the public to hunt and fish and just go for a walk without having to pay. Please keep the Samish River Unit in public hands and open for the public's use.

Dan Peck

6859 Worline Road

Bow, WA 98232